THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Total number of employment in the organised sector (all public sector establishments and all non-agricultural establishments in the private sector employing 10 or more workers) as on 31st March 1991, 1996 and 2000 was of the order of 267.33, 277.80 and 279.60 lakhs respectively.

(c) National Sample Surveys during 1993-1994 and 1999-2000 reveal that employment which was of the order of 374 million in 1993-1994 has gone up to 397 million in 1999-2000. Significant employment growth was observed in the unorganized sector.

Retrenchment of labourers

†253. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that retrenchment of labourers is continuously being done in recent years in the public and private sector industries of the country ;

(b) if so, the percentage of labourers retrenched from public and private sector industries during each year from 1998 to 2000; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) According to the information collected by the Labour Bureau, the percentage of labourers retrenched from the public and private sector industries was 0.007%, 0.009% and 0.01% of the estimated employment in the organized sector in 1998, 1999 and 2000 respectively.

(c) Financial stringency, lack of demand and shortage of raw material have been the major reasons for these retrenchments.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.